EMAIL: spika@uos.de
RESEARCH WEBSITE: www.comparative-biocognition.de
ORCID PROFILE: orcid.org/0000-0002-4398-2337
GOOGLE SCHOLAR PROFILE: scholar.google.com/citations?user=hLMegcA&user=Obieft4AAAAJ

EDUCATION

2003 PhD, Institute for Neuro- and Behavioural Biology (INVB), University of Münster; Department of Developmental and Comparative Psychology, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology (MPI EVA). Germany (Supervisor: Prof. M. Tomasello; Prof. N. Sachser).

1999 Diploma Biology (1st class, honors), INVB, Westfälische Wilhelms-University. Germany (Supervisor: Prof. N. Sachser, Dr. G. Anzenberger, Prof. B. Martin).

CURRENT POSITION

2018 – pres. Full Professor, Comparative BioCognition (CBC), Institute of Cognitive Science (IKW), Osnabrück University, Osnabrück, Germany.

2017 – pres. Vice-president of the Ozouga Chimpanzee Project, Loango National Park, Gabon.

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

2017 – 2018 Senior Scientist, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology (MPI EVA), Germany.

2010 – 2017 Research Group Leader, Max Planck Institute for Ornithology (MPIO), Germany.

2007 – 2010 Lecturer, School of Psychological Sciences, University of Manchester, UK.

2005 – 2007 Postdoctoral Fellow, School of Psychology, University of St. Andrews, UK.

2003 – 2005 Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Psychology, University of Alberta, Canada.

FELLOWSHIPS

2010 – 2011 British Academy Small Research Grant, School of Psychological Sciences, University of Manchester, UK.

2008 – 2011 Supervision-Fellowship, School of Psychological Sciences, University of Manchester, UK.

2008 – 2009 Royal Society Seed Corn fund, School of Psychological Sciences, University of Manchester, UK.

2007 – 2008 Postdoctoral Fellowship of the EU 6th Framework Nest Pathfinder Initiative, School of Psychology, University of St. Andrews, Scotland.

2005 – 2007 DFG Postdoctoral Fellowship, School of Psychology, University of St. Andrews, Scotland.

MAJOR RESEARCH GRANTS HELD AS PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

2017 – 2025 ERC-Consolidator Grant, "The evolution of turn-taking", European Commission, Brussels, Belgium. 2.00 MM €, as PI.

2010 – 2017 Sofja Kovalevskaja-Award of the Alexander von Humboldt-Foundation, MPIO, Germany. 1.65 MM €, as PI.

TEACHING ACTIVITIES AND MODULES

2026 – pres. "Eating like a pig, Biological or Cultural Evolution?", (Study project, MSc module), Osnabrück University, Germany.

2024 – pres. "Introduction to Animal Cognition", lecture series, IKW, Osnabrück University (≈ 150 participants), Germany.

2022 – 2024 "The mentality of great apes by Wolfgang Köhler. One century later", (Study project, MSc module), Osnabrück University, Germany.

2020 – 2022 "Machine learning meets animal communication",
(Study project, MSc module), Osnabrück University, Germany.
2020 – 2022 "What can cognitive scientists do to save chimpanzees?"
(Study project, MSc module), Osnabrück University, Germany.
2021 – pres. "Foundations of Cognitive Science", lecture series, IKW,
Osnabrück University (≈ 150 participants), Germany.
2019 – 2020 "What is Waza thinking?" Developing a new book format to foster children's cognitive development
(Study project, MSc module), Osnabrück University, Germany.
2018 – pres. Primate Communications Seminar
(PhD- and MSc module), Osnabrück University, Germany.
2018 – pres. Language, Communication & Interaction Seminar
(PhD- and MSc module), Osnabrück University, Germany.

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND ROLES

2026 – pres. Dean of the Faculty of Human Sciences, Osnabrück University.
2022 – 2026 Vice president of the IKW, Osnabrück University.
Since 2020 Member of the work group CRC "Developing Knowledge", Osnabrück University.
Since 2020 Member of the work group University of Excellence, Osnabrück University.
Since 2020 Elected member of the Board of the IKW, Osnabrück University.
2010 – 2020 Member of the International Max Planck Research School (IMPRS) for Organismal Biology, MPIO and University of Konstanz, Germany.

PUBLICATIONS

List of publications *(in chronological order)*

[110] Mascaro, A., Gamba, M., Martin, F., OCP Consortium, Ebang Ella, G.W., Deschner, T., **Pika, S.** (2026). Wound Care in Nonhuman Species: An Integrated Framework Applied to Central African Chimpanzees. *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences, 2026;* 1564:e70414.

[109] Kolff, K., **Pika, S.** (2026). When grooming stalls: Assessing communicative repair, negotiation, and progressivity in chimpanzees. *iScience* 29, 117495.

[108] Tibesar, P., Crockford, C., Le Floch, A., **Pika, S.** (2026). Who waits when? Age and international context shape turn-taking timing in sooty mangabeys (*Cercocebus atys*) in the wild. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*.

[107] Abreu F., Schiel, N., Souto, A., **Pika, S.** (2026) Hallmarks of social action in the vocal turn-taking of wild common marmosets (*Callithrix jacchus*). *Scientific Reports*, 16, 20348.

[106] Surbeck, M., Cheng, L., Clay, Z., Crockford, C., Deschner, T., Engelmann, J., Furuichi, T., Hohmann, G., Kret, M., Morgan, D., Mouginot, M., **Pika, S.,** Sanz, C., Tennie, C., Tokuyama, N., Wessling, E., Wilson, M., Wittig, R., Wrangham, R., Samuni, L. (2026). Environmental context matters for interpreting species differences in Pan aggression. *eLetter in Science* Advances (Vol. 12, Number 11).

[105] Newen, A., Griem, M., Huber, L., Bugnyar, T., Blaisdell, A., **Pika, S.** (2026). Animal empathy reconsidered: a multidimensional profile account. *Biological Reviews*,

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[101] van Boekholt, B., Bosshard, A. B. & **Pika, S.** (2025). Sequence organisation of mother-infant interactions in chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii*) in the wild. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B, 292.2059*.

[100] Kolff, K., Acosta Flórez, D., Mascaro, A., & **Pika, S.** (2025). Insect applications to open wounds by chimpanzees in the wild: First insights from East African chimpanzees. *Scientific Reports*, *15*(1), 31242.

[99] Kolff, K., **Pika, S.** (2025). Turn-Taking in grooming interactions of chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii*) in the wild: the role of demographic and social factors. *Animal Cognition*, 28(26).

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RESEARCH EXPEDITIONS LEAD BY THE APPLICANT PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR

2021 –2025	Project leader: Turn-taking in bonobos in the wild, Kokolopori Bonobo Reserve, *LuiKotale Bonobo Project*, Salonga National Park, DRC.
2018 – 2024	Project leader: Turn-taking in chimpanzees in the wild, *Ngogo Chimpanzee Project*, Kibale National Park, Uganda.
2018 –	Proto-tool use and medical behaviors in central chimpanzees, *Ozouga Chimpanzee Project*, Loango National Park, Gabon.
2013 – 2014	Project leader: Greeting signals in chimpanzees in the wild, *Ngogo Chimpanzee Project*, Kibale National Park, Uganda.
2012 – 2014	Project leader: Gestural development and complexity in chimpanzees in the wild, *Taï Chimpanzee Project*, National Park, Ivory Coast; Kibale National Park, Uganda.
2012 – 2014	Project leader: Gestural development and complexity in bonobos in the wild, *Lui Kotale Project*, Salonga National Park, DRC; *Wamba Project*, Luo Scientific Reserve, DRC.
2012	Project leader: Vocal communication in gorillas in the wild, Djéké Triangle, Republic of Congo.
2006 –	Project leader: Gestural complexity in chimpanzees in the wild, *Ngogo Chimpanzee Project*, Kibale National Park, Uganda.

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Simone Pika